orca

number two
winter 1977-78

". . . it is vitally important that some of us begin the complex process of developing the theory and practice of armed struggle . . ."

GJB

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ORCA is published by ORCA, POB 478, Seattle, Washington 98111, USA. We are a Seattle-based research collective. This second issue is primarily concerned with the continuing struggle of the George Jackson Brigade. We have also included some material relevant to the anti-nuke movement.

We see ourselves as here to provide an alternative media devoted to discussion of the theory and in particular the practice of armed struggle. We depend on donations from friends and reader support to continue our work. Subscriptions are available. Send three bucks or whatever you can afford, more or less. Cash only please.

Continued page 34

Bomb explodes at auto dealership

Jackson Brigade Member

Bombing Suspect Seized

Brigade: Tipped off by Police

North End home yields

Sunday, November 6, 1977

Jackson Brigade clues

Sherman's Car Found Near Bus Depot

JOHN SHERMAN

Brigade bombs in Renton and Kent

50 autos damaged, dealers report

"They are here, there and everywhere." John Reed, FBI

"They could have a place way out in the boondocks. They might have a mile-long driveway with a hundred yapping dogs, or they could be that lovely couple who just moved in next door." Van Blarican, Bellevue police chief

"The George Jackson Brigade has made nearly as many appearances in this area as Mt. Rainier in the past two years." Seattle P.I.

The GJB expropriates $1,100 from the Juanita branch of the Old National Bank on September 8, 1977.

On September 19, $8,200 is expropriated from the Skyway branch of People's National Bank by the GJB.

An incendiary bomb fails to ignite at Westlund Buick dealership on October 8. This GJB action is taken in support of the long strike by the Seattle automotive machinists and against Westlund in particular because he is head of the Auto Dealer's Association.

On October 12, a pipebomb damages S. L. Savidge's auto dealership. This GJB action is also taken in support of the six-month-long strike. Savidge is chosen from the 52 struck dealerships because of his role in union-busting attempts. GJB communique issued.

A firebomb on October 15th destroys several new cars at BBC Dodge in Burien.

On October 18 over 80 slashed tires discovered at Eastlake Foothill Ford. The FBI receives letter from GJB taking credit for recent actions against auto dealers.

Around 9 p.m., November 1st, a pipe bomb destroys a Mercedes-Benz and does other damage at Phil Smart's Bellevue dealership. This GJB action is a demonstration of support and solidarity with the Red Army Faction in Germany, three of whose members were just murdered in prison by West German authorities. The blast occurs shortly after a woman identifying herself as Rita Brown of the Brigade calls radio station KZAM to say the bombing is dedicated to people fighting in the streets of Europe and the RAF in Germany. Later, an FBI trap on in-coming calls to KZAM is made public. GJB communique issued.

The political statement of the GJB, THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE IS THE FORCE OF LIFE, a 28-page document, is issued on November 3.

On Friday, November 4th, Rita Brown is arrested by the FBI at 1:30 p.m., after she is spotted at a bank by a stakeout. Knowing she is being followed, Rita deliberately leads agents away from the GJB safehouse. She's charged with five counts of bank robbery in Oregon.

Back at the house other members of the GJB are listening to radio scanners at 3:15 p.m., when word comes across that the FBI has requested Seattle police to impound Rita's car. Realizing Rita's dog's rabies tag could lead the FBI directly to them, GJB get together what they can carry. They are gone by the time the FBI encircles the house, lobs tear gas in and calls through a bull horn for anyone inside to surrender. FBI claims to find much material in the house. Also, they seize a red pick-up truck in addition to Rita's car.

On Sunday, November 6, a car registered to a GJB member is found abandoned a block from the downtown bus station. In the course of Rita's bust, three vehicles are lost and the GJB later reveals they lost 90 percent of their equipment.

November 18, Rita Brown pleads innocent to bank robbery.

On Friday, December 23rd, a pipe bomb explodes inside a Renton power sub-station, but the blast fails to do any damage. GJB communique issued.

On Christmas Day another blast, this one in Kent, does some damage to a truck involved in the auto dealership strike. This GJB action is taken to protest the unsafe conditions at the King County Jail. GJB open letter issued.

Rita Brown pleads guilty to one count of bank robbery on January 11, 1978, and the government drops the other charges.

On January 23rd, Rita Brown is transferred to women's prison in West Virginia. Reports indicate she is put in the hole, solitary confinement.

Over 50 cars are damaged with an acid-type spray at three Seattle auto dealerships on January 25. $2,000 damage is done at Huling Brother's Buick-Opel. Similar damage reported at Gene Fiedler Chevrolet. And at Frank Hawkin's Buick-Opel over $3,000 in damage is inflicted.

Programmable Scanner Eavesdrops on the FBI

By Dick Cowan

As the holiday season approaches, most of us begin thinking about gifts for relatives and friends. I always like to look for a gift that's a bit offbeat. And there are many possible selections to make from within the various hobby radio fields.

Consider, for example, one of the new programmable scanners that have been introduced recently. Two really outstanding ones come to mind. These are the Electra Model 210 and the "Touch" by Regency. What's really unusual about these two radios is the feature that allows the listener to search for new, unknown signals. Imagine being able to eavesdrop on the local police, the CIA or the FBI. You can do it with these fantastic radios.

The scanners are capable of being set to just about any frequency range that's used for two-way radio. Once set to the "search" position, they seek out signals, lock onto them, and record the frequency on a digital readout. Then, the frequency can be programmed onto a specific channel by pushing the "Set" button, and the scanner goes on its way, seeking out more radio signals.

Half the fun is finding the frequencies being used, and the other half is listening to what's taking place on them.

Both radios list in the $300 to $400 range, but retail prices vary.

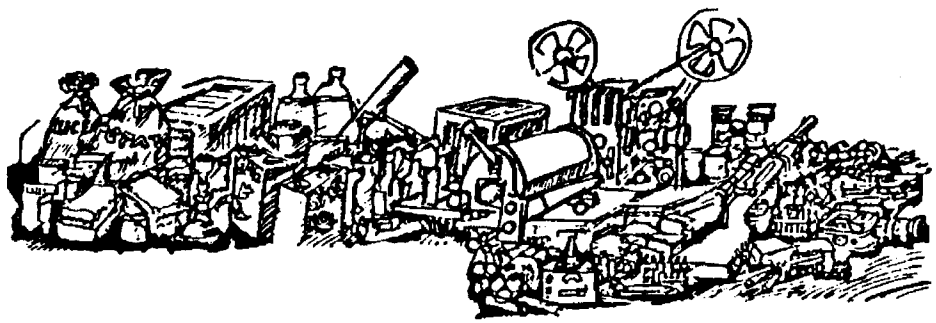
". . . for the past two years a healthy percentage of our lives has been spent listening to the police on our scanners . . ."

-- GJB Political Statement

Tactical principle 7 of the GJB:

"Good intelligence is the foundation of a successful guerrilla organization. The vast majority of intelligence work involves the gathering and organization of readily available pieces of information. Although this is mostly shit work, THERE IS NO WAY TO OVERSTATE ITS IMPORTANCE.

"An important task for people who want to remain aboveground while participating in and supporting armed struggle would be to develop these skills. Start files on developing mass struggle; pay particular attention to the organization of the ruling class as it opposes them, investigate the police and strive to understand their strengths and weaknesses. START BY GETTING A POLICE SCANNER. Develop target information: suggestions, terrain, weak spots, etc. TALK TO THE MASSES ABOUT ARMED STRUGGLE. Publish the results of these investigations so that the underground fighters and everybody else can see them."

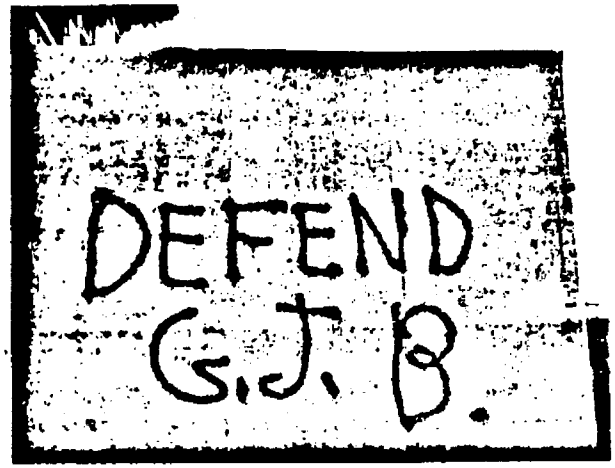


RITA BROWN'S STATEMENT TO THE COURT

i am a member of a revolutionary organization known as the George Jackson Brigade. This group of freedom fighters has and most certainly will continue to expropriate the funds necessary to promote guerrilla warfare in amerikkka. This means that the GJB robs banks to help finance other revolutionary activities. This tactic is by no means new or the result of any individual illness. This sickness is capitalism/imperialism spreading across the world, destroying the earth and its peoples to satisfy its greed and need to own everything--the rich get richer and fewer.

The poor can continue to want more and have less--to pay 25% of their salaries to taxes and the rest to barely survive--to live in fear of the state and its ever-growing police forces--to live in ghettos and prison cells--to live in fear of continual FBI illegal harassments such as phone taps and sneak picture-taking, always in the name of intelligence, OR they can get up off their knees and fight back! i have chosen to fight back, to resist, to work with others in doing what is necessary to see that our children have a future in which they will have control of their own lives. From each according to their ability--to each according to their need. This resistance, like everything else, requires capital. The banks hold this necessary capital and are vulnerable, so they become a target.

"Robbery" has been a worldwide strategy since the men/hunters invaded and enslaved the women and children of ancient agricultural tribes. This "robbery" literally ripped off millions of Africans, destroyed their cultures, and made beasts of those who survived the slave ships. This "robbery" murdered and then confined the remains of native American tribes rich with cultures of respect for all living things. This "robbery" has been the strategy of the very rich and very white ruling class used to conquer and destroy. But this strategy has more recently reached a turning point. In the hands of the working peoples of this earth, this "robbery" is dead. A new concept, expropriation, is born--to take rich private property for public use, to make the state pay for its own destruction. Today in Africa, in Asia, in Europe, in South America and in North America, expropriation is a tool used to finance the inevitable revolution. Expropriation is only one of the many tools used to help expose and fight the real robber barons of the world.



A close study of the actions and communiques of the GJB will clearly show that there is no desire or intention to harm any member of the working class. The immediate goals, as i see them, are to point out the crimes of the ruling pigs, to strike repeated solid blows to the belly of the beast (the oppressor state), and to encourage others to fight back by demonstrating that it is possible to do so.

The purpose of this room--all the big words used here, the games of slick dressing, the games of procedure, and the life-and-death power given to a few elite men, is only another example of white, patriarchal ruling class intimidation. i consider this court to be a disgusting and sick mockery of justice. Guilt is commonly defined as feeling remorseful for having done something wrong. i feel no regret at having entered the U.S. National Bank in Wilsonville, Oregon, on February 7, 1977, handing a teller a note, and leaving with $7,753. i do not consider it wrong to participate in the act of expropriating the real robbers/criminals. Nor do i consider it wrong for the people, felons or not, to possess a weapon. The people must be armed, and that is why i carried a firearm during the bank robbery.

Love & Rage --
Fire & Smoke

COMMUNIQUES

DEALER BOMBED

Seattle Sun:

Tonight we bombed the S. L. Savidge new car dealership in support of the four-month-long strike by the Automotive Machinists Union, Lodge 289. Sheet Metal, Teamsters and Automotive Painters unions have also been on strike against the dealers for several months. We chose S. L. Savidge in particular because he was identified by striking workers as one of the leaders of the car dealers' attempts to break the union.

Also, on October 6, we attempted to test an incendiary bomb at Westlund Buick as punishment for Westlund's role as president of the 52-member King County Automobile Dealers' Association. The device failed to detonate. (To verify that we placed the device: the timer was a white plastic, 60-minute kitchen timer with red numbers; and the gallon bottle of gasoline and sulfuric acid was wrapped with cheesecloth containing a potassium chlorate solution.)

It is clear that the bosses only want more profit for themselves at the expense of their workers. In this particular strike, the bosses are clearly trying to break the union in an attempt to get more profit for themselves. The best strategy against this union-busting attempt is to cost the bosses more than they gain by employing scabs.

We therefore encourage all people to support this workers' struggle. There are many ways to express support, some are more comfortable than others. Choose one of the following and act.

1. Don't cross a picket line for any reason! Take your business elsewhere or wait until the strike is settled.

2. Tie up the dealers' phones! Call in as a concerned person and complain, or call from a phone booth and leave the line hanging.

3. Put sugar in the gas tanks of the dealers' new cars, or potatoes in the tailpipes! This will destroy the engine.

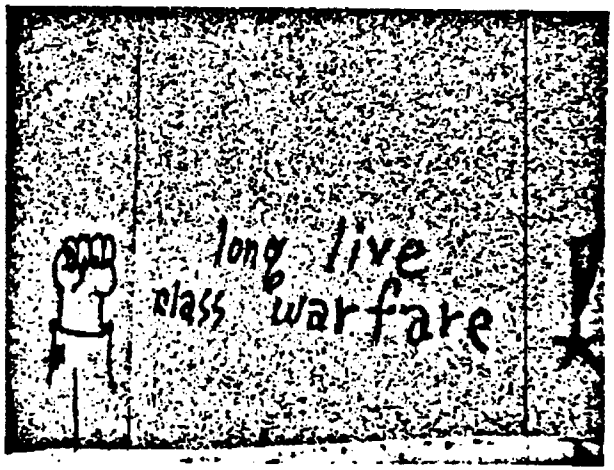
4. Break the dealers' windows! Use bricks, slingshots, small arms, etc. Slash their tires, too!

5. Lock the bosses out! Put superglue in any and all locks of buildings or cars. (This is easy and it works great!)

We are not members of any of the striking unions, but we have talked (anonymously) with striking workers all over town. We are claiming these actions so that the workers will not be blamed for them.

AN ATTACK AGAINST
ONE OF US IS AN ATTACK
AGAINST ALL OF US!
THE BOSSES NEED US,
BUT WE DON'T NEED
THE BOSSES!

Love and Struggle,
The George Jackson Brigade
October 12, 1977



YOU CAN KILL A REVOLUTIONARY, BUT YOU CAN'T KILL THE REVOLUTION

George Jackson Brigade Communique

On the night of November 1st, we bombed the Phil Smart Mercedes Benz dealer in Bellevue in retaliation for the murders of our German comrades of the Red Army Faction. This punitive action is in solidarity with the thousands of freedom fighters throughout Europe and around the world who have taken up the counterattack against the real terrorists: the international imperialist ruling class and all its instruments of terror.

This action is dedicated to:

Ulrike Meinhof, a political prisoner who was raped and strangled in her maximum security isolation cell in Stammheim, the special fortress prison in Stuttgart, Germany, on May 9, 1976. The official coroner's verdict was suicide.

Andreas Baader and Jan Carl Raspe, political prisoners who were shot in the back of the neck in their separate isolation cells in the same prison on October 18, 1977. The official coroner's verdict was suicide.

Gudrun Ensslin, a political prisoner who was hanged from an electric extension cord in her isolation cell on the same day that Baader and Raspe were shot, in the same fortress prison. The official coroner's verdict was suicide.

We send a special message of support and revolutionary greetings to Irmgard Moller. She is a political prisoner at the same prison in Stuttgart, Germany. The state failed in its attempt to stab her to death with a broad knife. However, her statement, made from a hospital bed, that she did not try to kill herself, means that her life is still in danger. The ruling class freely uses murder and torture to silence people who expose their terrorism.

All four murdered freedom fighters, as well as Moller, were captured urban guerillas, members of the Red Army Faction (referred to by the ruling class media as the "Baader-Meinhof gang"). They were tried and convicted under "exceptional" laws--laws designed to give the German ruling class a freer hand in crushing popular dissent. These people were subjected to increasing physical and mental torture, sensory deprivation and isolation from each other, their friends and their lawyers. The German government's excuse for the torture was the charge that these guerillas were directing armed activity in Germany from inside the prison.

The German ruling class has a bloody history of disposing of their political enemies. In the early days of Hitler Germany, the Nazis began this murderous practice by herding their enemies into concentration camps, shooting them, and labeling it "an escape attempt." (Just like the murder of George Jackson at San Quentin.) Because the international capitalist class wants us to forget its experiment with fascism, they now murder enemies through "suicides," instead of staged "escape attempts."

* * *

We chose Mercedes-Benz as a target because it is a German luxury car which is a favorite item of conspicuous consumption for ruling class bosses, and because of its association with Hans Martin Schleyer, late captain of German industry and unpunished Nazi war criminal.

Schleyer was president of Daimler Benz, the manufacturers of Mercedes Benz. He was also head of the Union of German Employer's Association (a combination national chamber of commerce and manufacturer's association). He was also an economic advisor and close personal crony of the boss of the West German government. During World War II, he was a high-ranking Nazi SS officer in charge of war industries in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia. He was the perfect representative of "democratic" German capitalism.

Schleyer was taken hostage by the Red Army Faction to win freedom for eleven of their captured comrades, including Ensslin, Baader and Raspe, who were murdered two weeks ago. Schleyer was executed in retaliation for those murders.

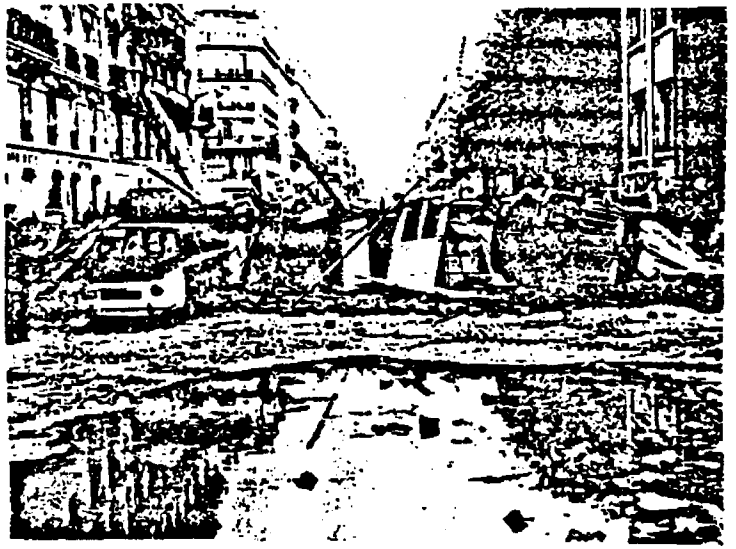
LOVE AND RAGE - FIRE AND SMOKE

REMEMBER THE STAMMHEIM MASSACRE
AVENGE THE MURDERS!

Love and Struggle,
The George Jackson Brigade
November, 1977

DON'T BE FOOLED BY KINGS. QUEENS. PRESIDENTS. PRIESTS. TEACHERS. PARENTS. PROPERTY OWNERS. SHOPKEEPERS. COPS. SOLDIERS:

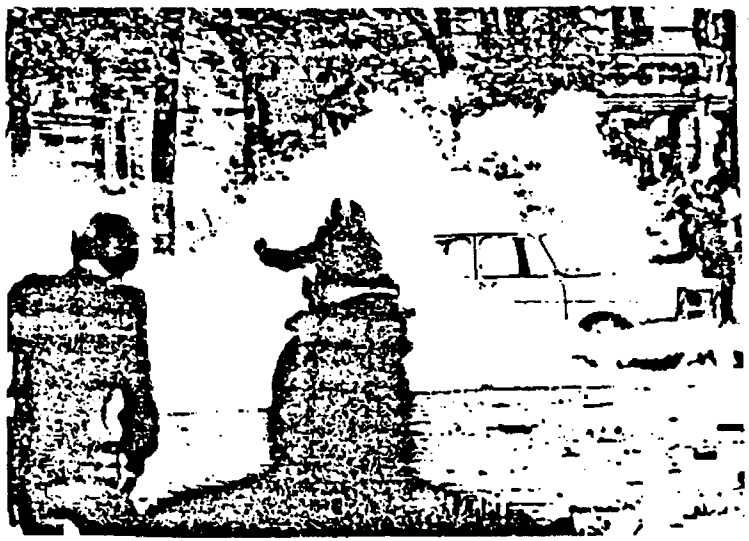
ONLY YOU CAN FREE YOU. NO GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO ISSUE AN EDICT SETTING YOU FREE.



GOVERNMENTS PROMISE THAT THE SOLUTIONS TO ALL OUR ILLS LIE IN THE FUTURE. BUT GOVERNMENTS ONLY WORK ON SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PROBLEMS.

THE BEST ANTI-DEPRESSIVE IS SUCCESSFUL ACTION, DOING SOMETHING RIGHT AND WATCHING THE RESULT.

FREE CITY VISIONARIES



AN OPEN LETTER
TO (Rita D. Brown)

From the rest of the Brigade

"It could have been me, but instead it was you.
So I'll keep doing the work you were doing as
if I were two.
I'll be a student of life, a singer of songs,
A farmer of food, and a righter of wrongs.
It could have been me, but instead it was you.
And it may be me dear sisters and brothers
before we are through.
But if you can fight for freedom, freedom,
freedom, freedom,
If you can fight for freedom, I can too."

-- Molly Near

It was your hair, comrade. Somebody around that fuck-
bank spotted you with that hair looking like Carol
and, and the Feds came and staked out the bank waiting
you to come back. And you did, and now they've got you.
just like that another of our strongest fighters is
ed up. They must have tried to follow you home from
walk on the beach with the dog, and you spotted them
doubled back away from the house ensuring your capture
our safety.

We heard about it on the scanner when 2 Adam 23 was
to "meet the FBI agent at 175th and Aurora" and impound
vehicle. Since we had neglected to remove Dillinger's
dog -- also in the slammer now) rabies tag, we realized
it wouldn't take the Feds long to trace it back to the
e.

That was about 3:30 in the afternoon. Frank was out in
Dodge and wasn't due to call or be home until about five.
people left in the house spent the next hour and a half
ng to determine from the scanner whether you were still
g held at 175th and Aurora and could use some help, try-
to locate Frank who had the only usable vehicle, and
ng to judge how much time they had before the Feds
ed up. Just before 5:00 they decided they could wait
onger. They burned some shit, left a cryptic note for
k, gathered up all the weapons and ammunition and tried
alk away.

They had to turn back after one block because the equipment was too heavy. About this time, Frank got home with the car, so we loaded it up with the weapons and ammunition and a bare minimum of clothes and other equipment and left. By the time we got to a safe place and unloaded, it was only about 5:30 or 6:00 p.m., just four or five hours since you were nailed, so Nora and Frank took the car back to the house to try to get one more carload of equipment out.

They did an area check approach to the house and discovered four or five suspicious cars apparently meeting in the school parking lot that faces Meridian (just where we always figured the police would use as a staging area to raid our house). Nora and Frank drove by these cars twice and were able to confirm that they were Feds by following one of them (a big, dark, four-door, Inspector-Erskine type sedan) as it moved into position behind and to the north of our house. Its license number (IVU 004) was almost the same as the license number of an almost identical Fed car we had spotted downtown some time ago (IVU 001). Nora and Frank left the area just as the raid began.

So now we're in the process of summing up our mistakes and beginning to rebuild, once again from close to the ground.

We have so far identified the following specific mistakes that led to your capture and the raid on our house:

1. We failed to take your day-to-day appearance seriously enough and didn't realize how distinctive your hair style was and how closely it resembled a picture we knew the Feds had of you. This mistake cost us you, our greatest loss, both materially and emotionally, in a long time.
2. Although we had sense enough to remove the dog's license tag anytime anyone went out with him, it never occurred to us to remove his rabies tag. This mistake cost us our base.
3. We overestimated the security of our house and failed to develop clear emergency plans that would have allowed us to evacuate the most valuable equipment, tools, clothes and supplies first. This mistake cost us 90% of our supplies and equipment.

We seem to pay dearly for small mistakes in this work.

Overall, we made the mistake of too much doing with too little thinking and discussion. Since returning from Oregon, we quadrupled our workload with little or no change in our methods of work. During the last two months we did two bank robberies, four or five bombings, a thirty-page political statement, a major criticism of John Brown Book Club, and worked throughout on putting together another bank robbery. We were also working on a couple of other major actions that we can't talk about for security reasons. We also did four or five full tune-ups on our vehicles, built a canopy for

our truck and did all the shit work maintenance that takes two or three hours out of every day.

During this period we had almost no division of labor; tasks were completed on a pretty much hit-or-miss basis of who was free and capable of doing them. By and large, the tasks themselves were identified and defined spontaneously, as they came up, with very little advance planning.

We worked six days a week, a minimum of nine or ten hours a day, and our discussions were always "the minimum," which usually meant brief reports on today's tasks and assignment of tomorrow's. We took no time for serious discussion and analysis of the kind of problem that led to your arrest and the raid on our house.

We will correct these errors. As we rebuild our base, we will incorporate the following changes in our day-to-day methods of work:

1. We will develop and implement a realistic division of labor based on the number of people we have and on logical definitions of areas of responsibility in our work. In this way, we will have clearly defined responsibility for such things as security practice and will be much less likely to make the kind of stupid mistakes that come from relying on spontaneous insight (for example, to remove the dog's rabies tag).
2. We will unfailingly set aside one day each week solely for meeting. We will use these meetings for political struggle, for discussion and analysis of our strategic development, and for reports, practical criticism/self-criticism, and planning of the next week's tasks.
3. We will immediately develop a set of evacuation plans, establish priorities for the removal of supplies and equipment, and will, from time to time, conduct evacuation drills so that we all understand what is to be taken, and how, for every possible situation.

Throughout the period of rebuilding, we will continue the process of analyzing and defining the mistakes that led to this defeat. In this way, we will transform the raid and your capture from a defeat into a solid foundation for the new base.

Mao Tse Tung says that to be attacked by the enemy is a good thing because it makes clear the distinction between us and the oppressor, and because it illuminates our weaknesses and provides us with knowledge gained from criticism/self-criticism to move forward and grow stronger. He says that we learn a thousand times more from a defeat than we do from a victory. This is true, but only to the extent that we make it true in our practice. And we will make it true because we love you and we love freedom, and because we are part of the masses of people and a handful of sleazy capitalists and their lackeys are no match for us.

So take care of yourself and hold on. Victory is certain.

"The wheel of law turns without pause . . .
after winter comes spring . . .
What could be more natural,
after sorrow comes joy."

Love and Struggle,
The George Jackson Brigade
November, 1977

* * *

They snatched you
leaving that hollow empty gap
TUG's know
My pillow is drying
Spent grief is turning into rage

Eyes, lips, hips, thighs, flower
Arms enfold me
Remembering you on the beach
(Yer first boat ride), Halloween painted faces
Laughter, tears and
Good loving
My lover no longer shoots pool
With a .357
But you still make me feel like dancing

Aches turn to comfort
Bodacious sister woman you are
In my mind as I
plant bombs, rob banks
Your strength and discipline will
Keep me fighting.

-- Jory

BUST THE UNION BUSTERS

George Jackson Brigade Communique

Tonight we bombed a railroad car containing new cars at the Convoy Transport Company in Kent, Washington. New cars are brought by railroad to Convoy and transported from there to new car dealerships in King County. This action was in support of the seven-month-long strike by the Automotive Machinists Union, Local 289, against the King County Automobile Dealers' Association.

From the start of this strike, the bosses have clearly been attempting to bust the Automotive Machinists Union as part of their continuing drive to get more profits for themselves at the expense of workers. Their tactics have included slanderous attacks against the machinists in the news media, and court injunctions against mass actions at some dealerships. More recently, they have conspired with the news media in trying to suppress any mention of the continuing strike.

The local union hacks haven't done much better than the dealers. They have limited the "offical" battle to picketing, while neglecting to publicize rallies and mass actions, or to spread the word about the strike among other unions. The hacks on the King County Labor Council didn't even bother to put the struck dealers on their unfair list until after the machinists had been on strike for six months.

But the workers have stood firm against these attacks and continued to build support for the struggle throughout their long and courageous strike. In August, over 800 workers marched in the streets of Seattle in support of the striking auto machinists. The machinists held a mass labor rally November 12 outside the dealer-sponsored Auto Show at the Kingdome. Striking machinists have frequently been joined on their picket lines by workers on strike against Boeing, and by the Firstbank Independent Employees' Association (Seafirst Bank Union), as well as others. Workers in the American Postal Workers Union and the Meatcutters Local 81 proposed and passed resolutions in support of the machinists. On November 17, a mass celebration was held at the Westlake Chevrolet picket line, where machinists "celebrated" having been on strike for six months and vowed to continue sticking it out. On November 23, a group of striking machinists picketed City Hall in an attempt to get the news media to cover their strike.

This attempt at union busting by the Dealers' Association is not an isolated event. Because capitalism (like an old Ford that's been patched up once too often) is falling apart again, there have been more and more attempts at union busting by bosses everywhere. As the capitalists scramble to increase their declining profits, strikes everywhere are becoming longer and harder fought. Currently in Seattle, Seafirst National Bank is attempting to bust the Firtbank Independent Employees' Association, which has been without a contract since August 1. The unions in auto dealerships in Portland, Oregon, were busted out two years ago. Spokane has one union left in a dealership after the rest were busted out five years ago. Southern California has no auto machinists unions left at all.

But the striking auto machinists have drawn the line against union busting, and have been joined in their common battle by workers throughout the King County area. The best strategy against the Dealers' union-busting attempt is to cost the bosses more than they gain by employing scabs. We therefore continue to encourage all people to support this workers' struggle. There are many ways to express support. Choose any of the following and act!

1. Don't patronize the struck dealers. Don't cross a picket line for any reason! Take your business elsewhere or wait until the strike is over.
2. Tie up the dealers' phones! Call in as a concerned person and complain, or call from a phone booth and leave the line hanging.
3. Put sugar in the gas tanks of the dealers' new cars, or potatoes in the tailpipes! This will destroy the engine.
4. Break the dealers' windows! Use bricks, slingshots, small arms, etc. Smash their tires, too!
5. Lock the bosses out! Put Superglue in any and all locks of buildings or cars. (This is easy and it works great!)
6. Call and harrass the various news media until they give adequate news coverage to the strike and the real issues involved.

At this time, the unions which our parents and grandparents fought and died for are one of working people's strongest and only protections against attacks by the bosses. In the end, the bosses' attacks can only be overcome by doing away with the bosses and their rotten system. In the meantime:

BUST THE UNION BUSTERS AND KEEP SEATTLE A UNION TOWN!

AN ATTACK AGAINST ONE OF US IS AN ATTACK AGAINST ALL OF US!

THE BOSSES NEED US, BUT WE <u>DON'T</u> NEED THE BOSSES!

Love and Struggle,
The George Jackson Brigade
December 24, 1977

FROM THE GEORGE JACKSON BRIGADE
AN OPEN LETTER TO:

John D. Spellman
King County Executive
7048 51st Avenue N.E.
Seattle, Washington

Lawrence G. Waldt
Sheriff-Director, King County
Dept. of Public Safety
6535 Seaview Ave. N.W., #709B
Seattle, Washington

Jailers Spellman and Waldt:

Tonight we bombed the transformer supplying power to Southcenter and the Andover Park Industrial Complex to protest the criminal and inhuman conditions at the King County Jail. Southcenter/Andover Park Industrial Complex was chosen because it is a center of capitalist activity in King County. Capitalism causes crime with unemployment, poverty and oppression, and the capitalists are responsible for the conditions in their jails.

The media has been reporting on the dehumanizing and overcrowded conditions in the King County Jail for some time now. Even the King County Superior Court judges snivel about the "outdated, over-worked, and vastly over-crowded" conditions in a jail designed for a maximum of 550, and now confining over 700 people. The jail also is in gross violation of the Fire Code, refuses to correct these violations, and is a potential death trap for those imprisoned there.

It is clear that King County intends to do nothing about these conditions. A bond issue for possible improvement funds won't even be considered until a year from now. If at all.

Further exposure of the brutal conditions and practices at the jail are contained in a letter from Mark Cook in the November 14 issue of the Northwest Passage. Mark Cook has been confined in segregation in the King County Jail since March 12, 1976.

> I am kept in segregation, isolated from other "mainline" prisoners because I am a political threat to the "order and security of the jail." Although the keepers admit I have broken no jail rules and regulations, and have caused no disturbance to warrant being kept in disciplinary cells, I have been in such confinement for twenty months...
>
> I spend twenty-three hours a day in my cell (six feet by seven feet); I am given midnight showers every two or three days; no daylight enters the cell; cell lighting is poor; there is no ventilation; there is no hot water; there is a sink and a toilet; I eat my meals on the floor (there is no table). I have suffered various harrassments from jailers and jail authorities (people in the news media who intervened in my behalf didn't want to believe what was happening). Fellow prisoners in adjoining cells are mostly the uncontrollable psychotics who are locked back here without supervision. They often rage for hours at a time, flood their cells, set their cells on fire; a few have played in and eaten their own feces. Under these and other pressures, at times I have reacted futilely, but my awareness of the incompetent and oppressive controls of the state seeps through and I quiet down, struggling inwardly with repressed anger.
>
> I am an African, descendant of Africans trapped here in North America in the slave colonies. I am of the working class, an upholsterer, and common laborer when I have to be. So the contempt and indignities I suffer at the hands of the government, though directed at me in this instance, are a sample of the indignity and contempt the government feels for African and working class people who are "politically suspect."

Mark Cook is a black, ex-convict, prison organizer who was convicted of participation in Brigade activities on the testimony of a bribed heroin addict. His trials were and continue to be marked by government misconduct and deceit. Mark Cook has steadfastly maintained his innocence throughout. His case is still being appealed.

Ed Mead, an admitted GJB member, is in general population at the state penitentiary at Walla Walla. Rita Brown, an alleged member of the GJB charged with numerous bank robberies, is in general population at the Marion County Jail in Oregon. Mark Cook, who denies complicity with the Brigade, and has a history of clearly non-violent political activity, has been held in solitary confinement in the most brutal of dungeons in the King County Jail for over twenty-one months. Both Rita and Ed are white. Mark Cook is black. His black skin is the sole "justification" for the arbitrary and degrading treatment he is subjected to. This kind of blatant racism is all too common practice by the ruling class generally, and in their prisons and jails in particular.

You should inform your ruling class bosses of the following initial demands:

1. Release Mark Cook into general population with full "privileges" immediately.
2. Publish in the two major Seattle newspapers a detailed report of exactly what fire codes are being violated, and what is being done to correct them and bring the jail up to code.
3. Publish in the two major Seattle newspapers detailed plans for the emergency evacuation and rescue of prisoners in the jail in case of fire.

4. Make an examination by licensed medical personnel from outside the jail available to all of the people in segregation. Have licensed medical personnel from outside the jail do a thorough investigation of the medical conditions in segregation and publish a detailed report of their findings in the two major Seattle newspapers. This group should include people from at least the following medical disciplines: Internal Medicine, Neurology, Ophthalmology, and Psychiatry. This group must also include people from the alternative medical community.

You should inform your capitalist bosses that we hold them responsible for these demands, and that if they are not met within a month's time we will continue attacking ruling class institutions, capital equipment, and persons throughout the Pacific Northwest. These attacks will continue until these reasonable demands are met.

We urge all progressive people in Oregon and Washington to join with us in this campaign to bring the King County Jail up to minimum standards of human decency. Some specific things that people can do include:

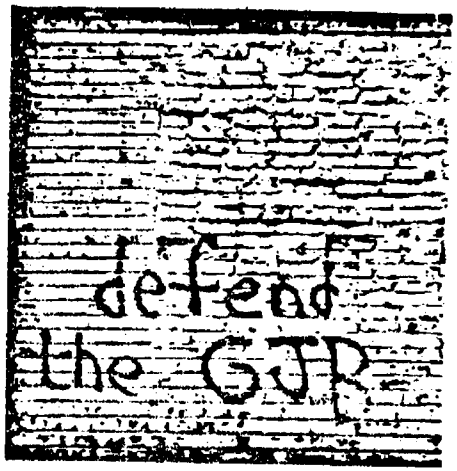
1. Call Spellman (344-4040) and Waldt (344-3855) daily and harrass them about these demands.
2. Continually call the King County Jail (344-2641) and ask if Mark Cook is in general population yet--and why not.
3. Write to Spellman and Waldt; stop by their homes and discuss these demands with them (see addresses at the top of this letter).
4. Call the Fire Marshall (County 344-2573, City 625-4077) and demand to know why they've allowed the jail to remain in operation when it's in violation of the Fire Code. Demand that they enforce the Code at the jail. (If our homes were in violation of the Fire Code, we'd be thrown out of them for not correcting the violations.)
5. Call the Health Department (County 344-5210, City 625-2161) and demand that they take action to correct the lack of medical attention for those in segregation.
6. Sabotage Spellman's and Waldt's offices, homes, cars, etc.
7. Call and lodge a citizen's complaint with the County (344-3452) and City (625-4211) Ombudsman.
8. Sabotage (Superglue, for example) any and all ruling class institutions (banks, supermarkets, insurance companies, etc.) and their capital equipment until these demands are met.

These actions are by no means petty. If they are taken up by enough of us, they would mean a hundred times more than any bomb. Mass activity will make the difference.

CAPITALISM IS ORGANIZED CRIME

JAIL THE JAILERS

Love and Struggle
The George Jackson Brigade
December 23, 1977



"NUCLEAR RESISTANCE AND NON-VIOLENCE"

A retired military man, who may have sent thousands to their deaths will be morally outraged at so non-violent an exercise as the occupation of homes by squatters, and will write to the press condemning it as "violence." His violence was legitimate, so he does not regard it as being violent. A street demonstration obstructing his car would not be legitimate. He inveighs at the violence. What really disturbs him is the legitimacy. Legitimate violence is a state monopoly, for the state makes the laws. It is not possible for the revolutionary to shift people from deliberately induced apathy, within a framework acceptable to the metropolitan police or the capitalist press. Nor is there any way of rebelling discreetly, of challenging public opinion through refraining from offending people's conception of good taste. Nor can one change the economic basis of society to approving nods from the judiciary.

No such means existed in Nazi Germany. It is not possible in Russia today. It is unknown here. Polite persuasion is permitted in this country, but only on terms that render it ineffective. The public can be tickled with feathers, when what it needs, in Heine's phrase, is a violent shove in the ribs with a lamp post. Traditional non-violent protests, such as Aldermaston, become institutionalized. Their protagonists in due course enter government. The test of demonstrations is not, however, whether or not they are non-violent. That is a criterion introduced by Christian Socialist tradition and inherited by the "new left." It is not a revolutionary test, which is whether or not such demonstrations disturb the chain of obedience by which orders are transmitted and obeyed. The use of force is inconsistent with freedom and the more a regime employs violence, the more repressive it is. Resistance to force, however, is the first essential to achieve freedom, even if one has to employ violence to do so. The violence that is practiced by the state is the antithesis of freedom, because it is the means by which rule is maintained. If one can only resist the imposition of the state's commands by violence, then such violence must be a prerequisite of freedom, however illegitimate it may be dubbed.

Stuart Christie & Albert Meltzer
from *The Floodgates of Anarchy*

Is Religion the Trident Within Us?

Religious people, especially Christians, have no right to embrace non-violence. To do so is to deny thousands of years of religious violence. The Fellowship of Reconciliation recently claimed that if it had not been for early pacifist civil disobedience, there would be no Christian Church today. On the contrary, had it not been for the Church's ability to violently repress opposition, it may not have made it this far. The intolerant nature of Christianity encourages its believers to be at constant war. Religious wars have been one of the greatest curses of human history. Millions of people were killed by the Crusades, the inquisitions, and the Reformation. Religious war is a tradition in most organized religions, and occurs today in many modern conflicts. Most racism has a religious base, like religious rationalizations for slavery, the anti-Semitism of Europeans, and the acts of genocide committed against Native Americans and the Indochinese. For centuries religious missionaries have seized land and destroyed the cultures of people worldwide, paving the way for modern corporate imperialism. The recent attack on gay people led by Christians is but another religious battle.

Religion sanctions the position of women as private property through the institution of marriage, and reinforces the patriarchal nature of industrial society. Religion forces women to bear and raise children by not allowing them to control their own bodies. While women are the targets of more and more violence in the streets and in their homes, religious people in the anti-nuclear movement are pushing non-violence training. WOMEN MUST LEARN SELF-DEFENSE. Years of passive resistance have led to their abuse and death.

Religion has been directly responsible for more deaths than any atomic bombs. Indeed, religious fervor may very well be one of the things that triggers a nuclear war.

Non-violence is a Tactic not Lifestyle

Religious mysticism obscures the real issues of Trident. The media is dominated by stories of silly religious acts, such as the planting of crosses and Buddhist meditation, at the expense of addressing the serious economic and social implications of this monsterous military/industrial project. Members of the Pacific Life Community, for example, tell us we must "kill the Trident within us all." They would have us think that nuclear holocaust is merely a personal problem. One gets the feeling that these religious groups are using Trident to recruit people to pacifism. Non-violent resistance is an effective tactic of mass action, but as a lifestyle (pacifism) it is escapist. Pacifism does not reveal or criticize the class conflicts that produced the arms race. Pacifists try to avoid conflict. This philosophy can be dangerous when self-defense is required in violent or repressive situations. The key to changing the world is confronting and analyzing conflicts, using logic and clear thinking to develop a strategy. Believing in religion makes it impossible to have an accurate analysis of society and change. Religion abandons rationality for faith. If you base your life on a big, fat lie, you cannot be trusted to recognize the truth. Questioning religion opens the possibility of questioning other oppressive ideas.

You don't need a god to oppose Trident

Many people in the anti-nuclear movement are not religious. Moments-of-silence and praying at demonstrations and public meetings are offensive to atheists and non-believers, and they interrupt valuable discussion time. Our daily lives are already full of Christian proselytizing; there is no lack of equal time for them. If religious people wish to participate in a united front of opposition to nuclea proliferation, they must learn to curb their desire to constantly espouse their religion, and confront the issues at hand. If praying must occur it should be done in private. Otherwise, it gives the impression that Trident opposition is primarily religious.

Personal salvation will not stop the production of nuclear weapons. Just as non-violence should be thought of as a tactic, so should our opposition to a single weapon system, however deadly. We should not simply have as our goal stopping Trident. We must constantly remind ourselves that mass opposition to Trident is a tactic which furthers our ultimate goal, to take control of our society away from the class which profits from nuclear proliferation.

WE SALUTE THE COURAGE OF THIRD WORLD PEOPLE WHO HAVE DEFEATED CAPITALIST TYRANNY THROUGH ARMED STRUGGLE.

This leaflet was written by the Olympia Chapter of the League for the Promotion of Militant Atheism.

trojan

Monday, October 10, 1977, a blast damaged the visitors' center at the Trojan Nuclear Plant in Oregon. The environmental assault unit of the New World Liberation Front took responsibility for the pipe bombing. Trojan nuclear facility is currently supplying 50 percent of the power for some of Oregon. The plant is leaking radiation at this very moment. Trojan has been the scene of numerous demonstrations and hundreds of arrests.

letters

Dear ORCA:

I like your first issue and agree in particular with the August 10 statement from Stagecoach Mary Collective. But the moral problems apparent in setting off bombs as a form of armed struggle and the sensation of fear generally felt by the public has caused me to question the viability of bombing as a suitable response to the increasingly oppressive situation here in the USA 1978. It seems to me symbolic bombings serve a very limited purpose.

From what went down in New York City last summer might not sabotage of the electrical power systems be the most effective action revolutionary groups could take. Destruction of the bourgeoise state could begin with destruction of the power systems. Then the overall situation might be created whereby the masses find themselves in a favorable situation to seize the time.

Attacks on people on the other hand or threats on working people trapped in mindless bank teller jobs are counter productive. There must be better ways for revolutionaries to raise funds than sticking a gun in the face of a working class person.

But talk is cheap. Is it unfair for those not actively involved in armed struggle to encourage others to follow such principles? Is it absurd to discuss armed struggle without training and possession of firearms? To salute armed struggle and the GJB is nothing more than that.

C.C.
Seattle

The Politicians
Die Politiker

Dear people of ORCA,

Greetings. I hope this letter reaches you in good spirits.

Last night at a meeting/party I saw a copy of issue #1 of ORCA. To say the least I was very happy to see it--as I've been following and supporting the George Jackson Brigade since I first became aware of its existence (Halloween '75) and feel that publications such as ORCA do a great service to not only the GJB, but to the people's struggle for liberation.

I was interested to see the newsclippings from the Seattle press; however, I would have much rather have seen ORCA contain the GJB communiques that correspond with all the actions in the chronology, for example, especially the ones dealing with the attempted Tukwila liberation. However, not being familiar with your history, my criticism may not be applicable.

B.T.

November 9, 1977

Love and Struggle from
Vancouver

Dear ORCA:

We've received 50 copies of your first issue, and we really appreciate your careful work in collecting and reproducing the newspaper stories, communiques and community responses on the GJB. This has been very useful to distribute to people who ask for information on the GJB.

However, we have serious questions about the generally sensational, macho, and very sexist character and selection of your graphics; also, in your chronology, the only woman mentioned--Michelle Whitnack--is listed as M. Whitnack, so that it is not clear that she is a woman. All the men (except Po Ford, whom you refer to as P. O. Ford) are given full first names, making it clear that they are men. We are particularly concerned about this because of what you tell us are your plans to include a "comprehensive account of the GJB" in your next issue. Anti-sexism and support of feminism and gay liberation are cornerstones of the GJB's political position; we seriously doubt that your "comprehensive account" could do justice to this.

You should also know that a full-scale political statement by the GJB (27 typed pages) has been received and is now in the process of being printed. You should certainly hold off on your plans until after you have seen that.

Free Rita!

for the Left Bank Collective

December 5, 1977

Dear ORCA,

We have read your first issue and have the following criticisms to make:

We think it was wrong to include Po Ford, Mark Cook and Michelle Whitnack in your chronology of the GJB. You gave no explanation of who these people were or what connections they had to the GJB. This makes it easy to assume that they did in fact have ties with the GJB. This is a violation of their personal security and a misrepresentation of the real facts. We also object to your omission of Michelle Whitnack's first name, making the list appear to be all men.

We see ORCA as a sensationalistic paper. Our reasons are that the graphics used depicted arrogant men tossing bombs, giving a very narrow focus to armed struggle; use of the phrase "Sherman freed from police by GJB gunfire" in the chronology--this was taken from straight media sources, and ORCA had a responsibility to explain this to its readers.

We have further criticisms of the graphics. They focused on terrorism (i.e., cover graphic); were insulting to serious revolutionaries (i.e., "I am a revolutionary because it is the best way to live."); the graphics romanticized armed struggle, were of only white men; there were no women or people of color anywhere in the paper; your emphasis was on guns, not on an analysis of armed struggle. These errors all show a lack of respect for the brigade and other revolutionaries practicing armed struggle, and make the brigade look like the irresponsible bomb-throwers the straight media wants us to believe they are.

We criticize you for using only the straight press and no alternative media sources. This shows a lack of respect for anyone providing those sources and gives credence to the established media.

Quite frankly, it makes us think that ORCA had been put out by agents or at least someone unfriendly to revolutionary politics.

The lack of security consciousness in the chronology, the total lack of analysis and the graphics all lead us to these conclusions.

If ORCA is a seious attempt to facilitate discussions on armed struggle, then you must answer these criticisms.

Stagecoach Mary Collective

December 16, 1977

Dear Stagecoach Mary Collective,

We received your letter of December 5, 1977, a few days ago and would prefer to respond to your criticism in the second issue of ORCA, but the nature of your criticism and the uncertain future date of our next issue necessitates an immediate reply.

We agree with your criticism of the chronology. It is true Po Ford, Mark Cook and Michelle Whitnack had no ties to the GJB and we are sorry if some readers feld misled.

But you are mistaken when you assert that "Sherman freed from police gunfire" comes from straight media sources. The first issue of *OPEN ROAD* uses the above phrase. We also suggest you look a little closer at the graphics in ORCA. We see women and also, as you call it, people of color.

Those are heavy and harsh charges: "lack of respect for the brigade . . . insulting to serious revolutionaries . . . violations of security . . . ." We are particularly saddened by your agent baiting and the overall tone of your letter that echoes the "we are more correct revolutionaries than you" spiel.

Yes, ORCA is a serious attempt, and we hope to make it a useful tool for discussion and study of the theory and practice of armed struggle. It would be really helpful if the *SEATTLE SUN* or *THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE* would devote space to the discussion of armed struggle, but this doesn't seem likely.

We would like to emphasize analysis in our next issue, and welcome any contributions. We make mistakes like anyone who does anything. We also appreciate people taking the time to help us grow through criticism. We hope to do another issue. It should more fully answer your criticisms.

O.R.C.A.

We urge our readers to study the Political Statement of the GJB. This material is available from Left Bank Books, 96 Pike Place, Seattle 98101. Please send a donation to the Rita Brown Defense Committee to help them cover expenses. We are holding off our response to the political statement until the six-month period of grace asked by the GJB elapses. We have included one letter on this subject, a copy of which was sent to us as well as to the "Seattle Sun." They didn't print it.

Ultimately the basic thing we can do is to educate people, ourselves included. We can do this best by using ourselves as an example. We feel the struggle is one for freedom and we want to avoid falling into establishment roles. We want to fight authoritarian trends in the no-nuke movement and at the same time resist media attempts to define our leaders and our roles. Let's hope to learn by our mistakes and evolve through struggle.

We are printing a selection of letters we've received in response to our first issue. This is being done not so much to air our own dirty laundry, nor so much to demonstrate we are accountable to our readers, but to encourage more people to think, discuss and write about armed struggle.

As for analysis of past GJB actions, we have little to say. In the past few months the GJB has carried out two clean bank expropriations. It is admirable that none of the recent bombings have wounded any innocent bystanders. That the Brigade could come back in December with actions after losing a beloved comrade and over 90 percent of their equipment is evidence of the dimensions of the strength and dedication of the GJB. Twice now in the past few years, the GJB has absorbed heavy losses and still come back again and again.

Our last issue attempted to present an objective account of the GJB so folks could come to their own decisions. We regret being unable at this time to present a comprehensive account of the GJB, all of their communiques under one cover, or a detailed and useful analysis of their actions. That will have to wait until we are, or some other group is, up to it.

We do see our next issue, number 3, as a publication devoted to discussion and criticism of the GJB Political Statement. Write us your thoughts. They need not be signed to be helpful to the on-going struggle.

ORCA February 1978

Dear ORCA:

I meant to respond earlier to your letter to the Left Bank Collective, but in the rush of events I didn't get around to it. Now, after receiving from you a copy of Stagecoach Mary's letter to you and your response, I want you to know that I feel Mary's criticism to be unduly harsh and paranoid, even though I can understand where they are coming from. Left Bank's criticism was quite specific, and we said exactly what we thought. Even though Mary's criticism overlaps with ours, they are not identical, and I just want to make sure that there is no confusion about that. Specifically, we don't think you are agents; we think that listing Cook and Whitnack in the chronology does not imply they are part of the Brigade (and even if it did imply that you thought so, this would hardly implicate them, since you are not the Brigade); finally, I personally rather like the graphic with the caption, "I am a revolutionary because it is the best way to live."; that's at least one of the reasons why I am a revolutionary, and I don't think it implies lack of respect for "serious" revolutionaries; I think I'm serious.

Salud

Editor of the Seattle Sun:

We have just finished reading the Sun (12-28-77) and especially noted a letter to the Editor from a friend on the East Coast commending you on your responsible approach to controversial issues. We, also, would like to add our thank you.

The following is our reaction to the George Jackson Brigade's Political Statement published a short time ago:

> We have read and studied the Political Statement. It represents a milestone in NW left politics, i.e., showing maturity, insight and unity on a principled basis. Any criticism that we might have would be of a minor nature and need not be cited at this time. We certainly offer our support withstanding our limited resources.

Let us intensify our effort toward greater unity of theory/practice.

For a genuine People's Democracy--
Struggle and revolutionary love,

WARRIORS OF THE RAINBOW